

From: Ben Rosengart
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 12:55pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am gravely concerned about the flaws in the proposed settlement with Microsoft. I do not feel that the settlement effectively addresses the issues. It allows Microsoft to keep the fruits of their crimes, and it will not hinder them from perpetrating similar crimes in the future.

Reams of analysis of the settlement have been written in the weeks since it was disclosed. Rather than rewrite what's already been written well by others, I prefer to supply you with some pointers. CNet has some excellent analysis here:

<http://news.cnet.com/news/0-1003-200-7765151.html?tag=nbs>

Robert X. Cringely makes some salient points about halfway down this page:

<http://www.pbs.org/cringely/pulpit/pulpit20011206.html>

I am a systems administrator for Public Access Networks Corp., aka Panix, a small internet service provider in New York City. Computer software is my livelihood and also a hobby. As a computing professional with a passing familiarity with law, I urge you to reconsider this settlement.

You have every chance of imposing real remedies on Microsoft. If you do so, I predict that you will see a real resurgence in the computing parts of the economy. There are a lot of good ideas and strong businesses that can arise when the market is free of monopolistic distortions.

Thank you for reading this message.

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Ben

"When I say 'literally', I literally mean 'literally'."